

Swahili Learners' Reference Grammar

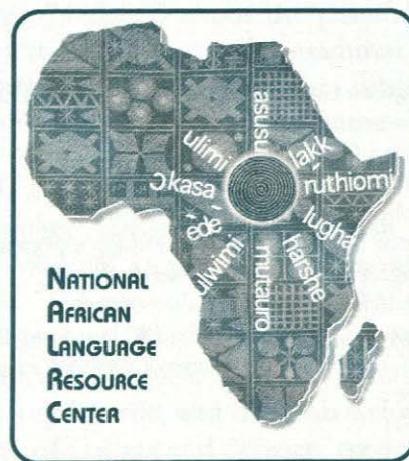
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African Language Learners' Reference Grammar Series

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African Language Learners' Reference Grammar Series

The *African Language Learners' Reference Grammar Series* is written for speakers of English who are learning African languages. Since many language learners are not familiar with grammatical terminology used in their textbooks, the books in this series seek to explain the basic terminology and concepts of English grammar that are necessary for understanding the grammar of an African language. The primary objective of the *African Language Learners' Reference Grammar Series* is to provide language learners with grammar books that will supplement their textbooks. These books are not intended to replace a textbook. The books in the series assume no formal knowledge of English grammar and are written in easy to understand language.

Interested parties may contact the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) about the possibility of working with the Center to publish a similar grammar book for their respective languages. Manuscripts are subject to external review and must follow the theoretical framework established for the series.

A series such as this depends on the vision, good will and labor of many. Special appreciation is extended to the U.S. Department of Education's IEGPS (International and Education and Graduate Programs Service), the NALRC staff members, the NALRC's Field Advisory, National Advisory, and Local Advisory Boards, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Letters and Science, especially Jane Tylus (Associate Dean for the Arts and Humanities) and Phillip Certain (Dean of the College of Letters and Science), as well as various individuals who support the efforts of the

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PREFACE

The *Swahili Learners' Reference Grammar* is written for speakers of English who are learning Swahili. Since many language learners are not familiar with grammatical terminology used in their textbooks, this book explains the basic terminology and concepts of English grammar that are necessary for understanding the grammar of Swahili. It assumes no formal knowledge of English grammar and is written in very simple language.

The primary objective of the *Swahili Learners' Reference Grammar* is to provide Swahili learners with a grammar book that will supplement their textbooks. It is not intended to replace a Swahili textbook. Occasionally, learners need more extensive explanations of the structures presented in their textbooks. This manual provides such additional detail. The grammar is arranged by topic to help learners locate information easily. For example, information on nouns can be found in Chapters 1-5.

The following are the design features of the *Swahili Learners' Reference Grammar*:

1. The organizational design is built around the basic word order of a Swahili sentence. The bulk of the manual focuses on nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, and objects. The text also includes various types of work with compound and complex sentences and with several other topics.
2. The grammar book presents the underlying structure of Swahili in a coherent and orderly manner.
3. The resources in this manual are built on a framework of explanations, examples, and short reviews. Each chapter is a self-contained discussion of a particular grammar topic. A